

enhances the current Interagency Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance, section 319E of the Public Health Service Act. The bill improves data collection on antibiotic use, supports education to encourage appropriate use of antibiotics and provides an organized system of surveillance and isolate collection.

New Jersey, like other states in the Northeast, has a unique problem that is quickly spreading to other parts of the country—the emergence of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, a bacteria that is resistant to almost all antibiotics available on the market. The trend was not immediately noticed and as a result, the bacterium spread to other parts of the country. The STAAR Act establishes Antimicrobial Resistance Clinical Research and Public Health Network sites which will be coordinated across the United States to improve our information about emerging infections, as well as conduct and support research.

This is an issue that requires action, not more study and more talk. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation to combat antimicrobial resistance.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today in support of H. Res. 590, which supports the goals and ideals of domestic violence awareness month and expresses that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities.

Domestic violence is a serious and pervasive problem in America and throughout the world. According to the Family Violence Prevention Fund, estimates on the number of incidents of violence against a current or former spouse range from 960,000 to 3 million each year; and more than 3 women are murdered by their husband or boyfriend in America every day.

Without question, these statistics are alarming and must be taken seriously. I truly believe that together, we can eliminate domestic violence from homes across the country and ensure that our children grow up in a healthy and peaceful environment.

In order to achieve this change, Congress must continue to pass laws that protect the rights of victims and punish their abusers. In 1994, Congress passed Violence Against Women Act, VAWA, which provided an additional \$1.6 billion to enhance investigation and prosecution of violent crimes against women and allowed civil redress in cases prosecutors chose to leave unprosecuted. The results from this legislation are tangible and encouraging, between 1993 and 2004, domestic violence in the United States declined significantly, with nonfatal incidents dropping more than 50 percent, according to data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Nonfatal incidents of intimate partner violence fell from 5.8 per 1,000 residents in 1993 to 2.6 victimizations per 1,000 in 2005.

In 2005, I worked with my colleagues to make further improvements to VAWA by also recognizing male victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. In its current form VAWA has so profoundly changed the way our Government prosecutes these crimes that the National Organization of Women heralded the bill as “the greatest breakthrough in civil rights for women in nearly two decades.”

Today, as we recognize National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we must remember that there is still plenty of work to do to eradicate domestic violence from our homes and communities.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY ANTONIO “TONY” POMERLEAU

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today in celebration of the 90th birthday of a truly remarkable Vermonter, Antonio “Tony” Pomerleau.

When Tony was 3 years old, he fell down a flight of stairs, injuring himself so seriously that he was forced to wear an iron corset and doctors said he wouldn’t make it past his 12th birthday. Clearly, Tony saw things differently, and today, on his 90th birthday, we express our deep appreciation for all that he has given to our state.

As an entrepreneur, police chief, philanthropist, and community leader, from his service as a trustee at St. Michael’s College to his annual Christmas dinner party for underprivileged children, Tony has positively influenced the lives of thousands of Vermonters.

Tony’s entrepreneurial spirit shone through at an early age when he would sell haircuts, wash cars, and help in his family’s store. In 1942, he bought a failing grocery store. Three years later, he had not only turned that grocery store around, he owned three more stores and a wholesale beverage business.

In 1951, he entered real estate. He built the Ethan Allen Shopping Plaza, the first shopping center in Vermont. Today, “Pomerleau Real Estate” is a household name across Vermont.

But Tony’s skill in business is more than matched by his generosity of spirit. Tony is perhaps most well known for his annual Christmas dinners which he started in 1982. In 2004, he expanded the tradition, hosting a party for the families of Vermont Guardsmen and women deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In addition, he served for many years as a trustee at St. Michael’s College, has endowed scholarships at Rice Memorial High School, and been a leading supporter of the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the United Way of Chittenden County.

As the Burlington Free Press, our state’s largest newspaper, said it so well in naming Tony the 2006 Vermonter of the Year, “Everyone has a seat at Tony Pomerleau’s table.”

Thank you Tony, for all that you do to make Vermont such a wonderful place, and congratulations on a very special birthday.

RECOGNIZING COLORADO PARK COUNTY AND JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICES AND PLATTO CANYON AND ELK CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENTS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and recognize the heroic actions of the Park County Sheriff’s office, Jefferson County Sheriff’s office, Platte Canyon Fire Department, and the Elk Creek Fire Department for their quick response to the hostage standoff that occurred at Platte Canyon High School on Wednesday, September 27, 2006.

On that morning at 11:40 a.m., a deranged man entered an English class, taking six students hostage at gunpoint. Over several terrifying and horrific hours, four were released. As the tense minutes dragged on, the officers knew that they had to act quickly if the remaining two girls were to be rescued.

Committed to saving the lives of these two young women, the Park County Sheriff gave the go ahead order and the officers charged into the classroom, unaware of what they would confront. Their courageous acts saved one young life, but the other was taken by a madman determined to kill.

The brutal and senseless murder of 16-year-old Emily Keyes devastated the mountain town. Home to around 7,650 Coloradans, Bailey is a tight-knit community where everyone knows one another, often by name. It is this bond that has provided solace for the town as it continues to heal and to grieve.

We cannot hope to understand what would motivate a person to commit such an evil and heartless act. Yet, as we remember the one-year anniversary of this senseless tragedy, and lament the tremendous losses suffered by the community of Bailey, we must also praise the courageous efforts of these first responders. The rapid and selfless actions of the police and fire departments almost surely precluded further loss of life, and for that the people of my district and the State of Colorado are grateful.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2881, FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of this rule and of the underlying bill. I am proud of H.R. 2881, The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, and I commend Chairman OBERSTAR and my good friend, Subcommittee Chairman COSTELLO, for their thorough work on this legislation.

Our committee has worked very hard on this bill. We held many hearings and heard from countless representatives of the aviation industry—including airlines, manufacturers, airports, labor groups, and passenger coalitions. The result of those hearings was this fine

piece of legislation, which I am proud to support.

As we have heard today, this legislation provides the foundation for the transition to the Next Generation Air Transportation System. This summer, as airline passengers faced unprecedented delays, we better understand the heightened importance of completing Next Gen. With 1 billion annual passengers expected by 2015, the transition from a radar-based system to satellite navigation is essential to maintain the strength of the aviation industry and provide our constituents with predictable flying conditions.

This bill allows an historic level of funding in order to prepare our Nation's airspace for the future.

I would also like to thank the Chairman for including, at my request, Seniority List Integration language in the Manager's Amendment. Nearly 7 years ago, American Airlines bought TWA—a great airline which had a long history of service in my home State of Missouri. Without any labor protections to look after their interests, TWA employees were unfairly stapled to the bottom of the combined work groups' seniority lists. As many airlines were forced to downsize in the aftermath of September 11th, these TWA employees, many with decades of service, lost their jobs as more junior American Airlines employees were retained. The result was the furlough of thousands of my constituents.

Given this unfortunate situation, it is appropriate that this bill provide long-needed labor protections ensure that a similar situation does not happen in the future. By providing for "fair and equitable" integration of seniority lists, we protect the employees of the purchased airline—without entering Congress into the complicated issue of how seniority should be defined.

This language means that future airline mergers will not result in the unfair treatment of one labor group.

H.R. 2881 represents a bi-partisan agreement to maintain the strength of our Nation's aviation industry. I urge support for the Rule and for the underlying bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 891 regarding "Recognition of Hunters across the U.S." Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

IRAN COUNTER-PROLIFERATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a staunch supporter of United States efforts to curb nuclear weapons proliferation, I am deeply concerned about Iran's nuclear program and its potential

to lead to weapons development. This is especially troubling in light of the hateful and unfounded comments of Iran's President Amadenajad towards Israel, our friend and partner in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I voted against H.R. 1400 today because it is a fatally flawed approach to preventing Iran from acquiring such weapons out of its nuclear program. Instead, we should be adopting a comprehensive strategy to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, for only that will work. A comprehensive strategy includes diplomacy and incentives for Iran, and not just harsher sanctions alone, as this bill provides.

Simply put: we need a carrots and sticks approach to this problem.

Further, I believe that passage of this bill will needlessly complicate relations with the several of the nations with which we must work if the world community is to dissuade Iran from weaponizing its nuclear program, thereby rendering our non-proliferation efforts that much less effective.

Mr. Speaker, if we are to be successful in this critical effort to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, I believe we must put diplomacy and a policy of constructive engagement at the forefront of comprehensive efforts. This bill, instead, I fear begins a not so long march down the road of further confrontation in an already enflamed region.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY STAFF SERGEANT ERIC D. COTTRELL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Eric D. Cottrell. Today, I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible man who died in service to his country.

Eric, born January 25, 1986, graduated from Rubidoux High School. Eric, an Army Medic, was assigned to the 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Bliss, Texas. Cottrell, who joined the Army in 2004, was awarded the Purple Heart, National Defense Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal and Meritorious Unit Commendation and was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Staff Sergeant Cottrell was killed by a roadside bomb on August 13, 2007, in Qayyarah, Iraq.

In reading about Eric's life I was impressed by his devotion to his fellow soldiers. He had clearly earned the respect of his fellow soldiers because they called him "Doc." Eric was right there on the front lines, ready to help his brothers-in-arms who had been hurt. The recent tribute to Eric's life and sacrifice at Fort Bliss, Texas demonstrated Eric's impact on his fellow soldiers and how deeply he will be missed.

Staff Sergeant Cottrell is survived by his parents, Alan Waters and Mannie Cottrell of Riverside, California; his wife, Sherri Cottrell of El Paso, Texas; two daughters: Megan Cottrell and Brandy Cottrell, both of Pittsview, Alabama; two sons: James Christensen and Eric Cottrell, both of Pittsview, Alabama; and two

brothers: Norris Alan Waters of Pennsylvania and Christopher Waters of Hawaii.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like Eric, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day Eric's family had to lay him to rest was probably the hardest moment the family has ever faced and my thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice goes out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words I offer only begin to convey my deep respect and highest appreciation.

Staff Sergeant Cottrell's wife, sons, daughters, mother, father, brothers and all his relatives have given a part of themselves in the loss of their loved one and I hope they know that Eric, the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made, will be remembered.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, Texas' mothers have sent more sons and daughters overseas for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom than any other state in America. We have endured more casualties than any other state but one.

The American Gold Star Mothers in Texas and throughout this great nation have suffered the supreme sacrifice of motherhood by losing a child who served in the Armed Forces, and thus perpetuate the memory of all whose lives are sacrificed in war. Their sons and daughters served their country honorably and gave what Lincoln called "last full measure of devotion."

To these soldiers, we are grateful and humbled by their sacrifice. And to the Gold Star Mothers who have lost children our thoughts and prayers are with you always.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OVARIAN CANCER BIOMARKER RESEARCH ACT OF 2007

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly present the Ovarian Cancer Biomarker Research Act of 2007, along with my friend and colleague, Representative HOWARD L. BERMAN.

Detecting this cancer early is the key to preventing deaths from this disease. In cases where ovarian cancer detection happens before it has spread beyond the ovaries, more than 93 percent of women survive longer than five years. When diagnosed in the advanced stages, the chance of five-year survival drops